

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Department of Fish and Wildlife WaterSmart

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Anderson

On March 20th, the Natural Resources Subcommittee recommended approval of the submission of a federal grant application from the Department of Fish and Wildlife to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in the amount of \$3,563,499 for three projects focused on water conservation and efficiency within hatchery operations and maintenance.

The WaterSmart Environmental Water Resources grant program provides federal funding for projects designed to increase water supply reliability through investments in infrastructure. The Department of Fish and Wildlife has identified three qualifying projects. Collectively, the projects replace a deteriorated water pipeline at Big Creek Hatchery; install a water disinfection system with drum filter to improve fish health at Sandy Hatchery; and relocate eight failing and cracked ponds to conserve water at Nehalem Hatchery. The state match requirement is \$1.2 million, which the agency will meet using Fish Restoration and Enhancement surcharge revenue.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends approval.